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ABSTRACT

Three teams of architects and educators from across the country met to study three older school buildings and suggest economical plans for changing them into open plan schools. This booklet presents notes from the team discussions about proposed building changes and changes in educational practice. Sketches of the original floor plans and the proposed changes are provided. (MLF)

EA 005 094

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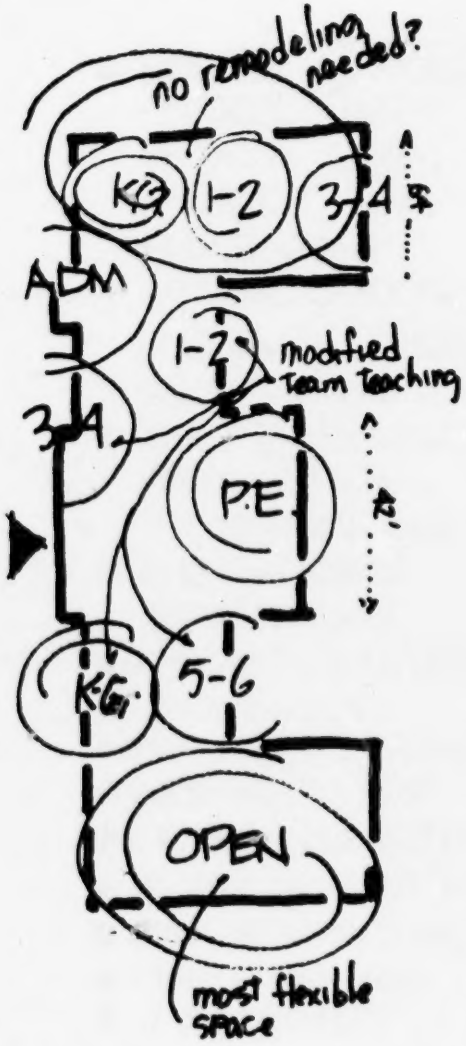

A WORKSHOP SPONSORED BY CRYSTAL LAKE PUBLIC GRADE SCHOOLS AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES LABORATORIES, INC... AUGUST 2-3, 1972.

A PLAN FOR ACTION

OR

HOW TO CHANGE OLD SCHOOLS INTO **OPEN SPACE** SCHOOLS WITHOUT ANY **MONEY**!

NOTES:

J. JEFFREY CONROY

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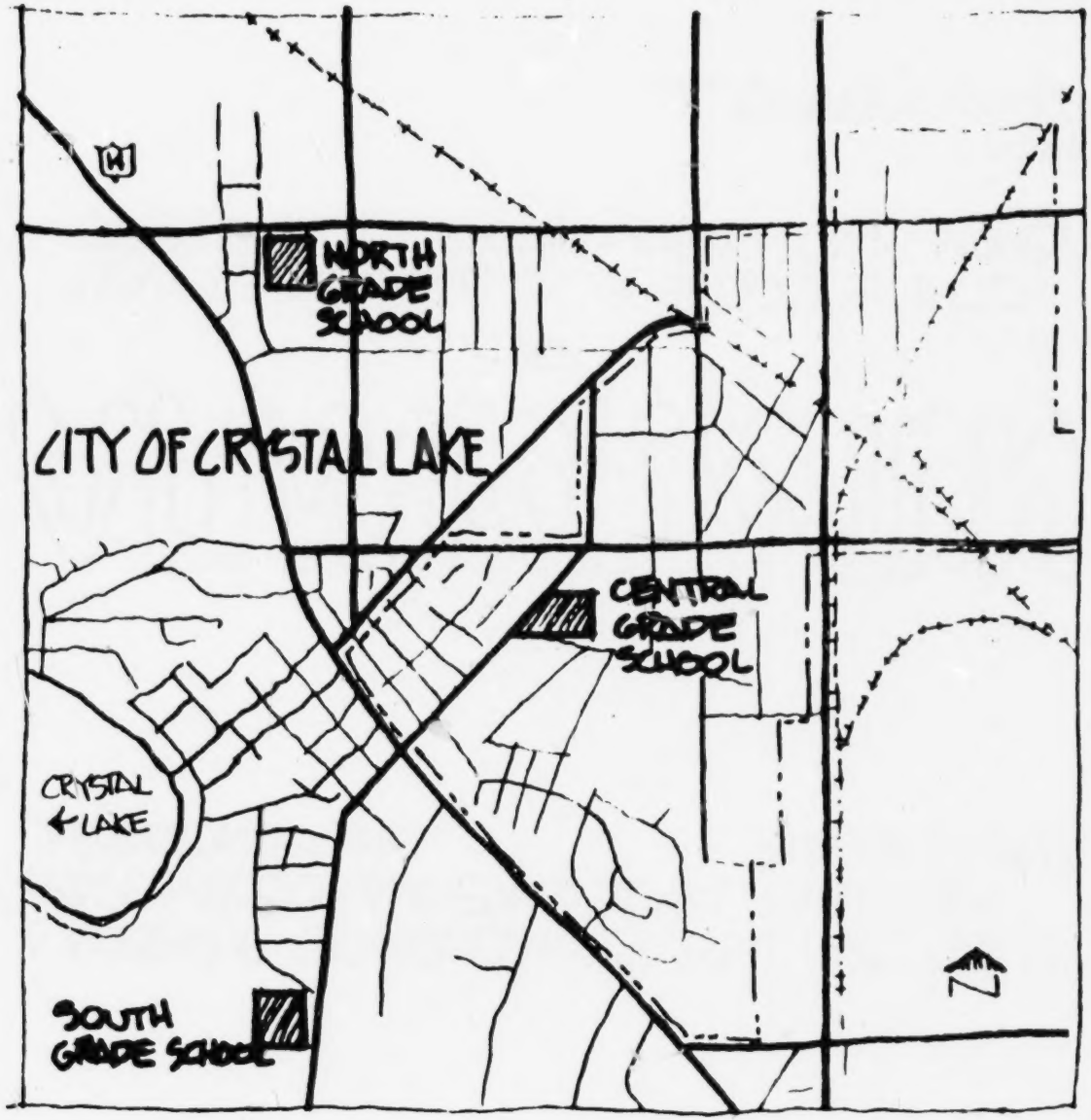
CRYSTAL LAKE INFO:

- A GROWING AREA
- C&NW COMMUTERS
- MANY WORK AT O'HARE
- GROWTH FROM CHICAGO
- 8 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
- 4500 PUPILS K-8
- INDEPENDENT ELEMENTARY DISTRICT
- LAST BOND-5 YR. PLAN-PASSED IN 1969.
- 3 NEWEST GRADE SCHOOLS ARE OPEN SPACE SCHOOLS
- CORBYN HAMBY (SUPT.) INDICATES COMMUNITY INTEREST IN CHANGING 3 OLDEST SCHOOLS TO OPEN SPACE:
  - CENTRAL (1889+)
  - SOUTH (1952+)
  - NORTH (1953+)
- PROBLEM- NO MONEY



... TO THE RESCUE!

BEN GRAVES (EFL), CORBYN HAMBY (SUPT.) & BOB BLAZIER (ASS'TS. SUPT.) PUT TOGETHER THREE TEAMS OF ARCHITECTS & EDUCATORS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY TO STUDY THE THREE CRYSTAL LAKE SCHOOLS:

DON GLINES professor, mankato state univ.
BILL BRUBAKER architect, perkins & will, chicago
JEFF CONROY architect, skidmore, owings & merrill, chicago

SOUTH SCHOOL
FRAN FRITZ principal

DAVID MATHIAS principal, walnut creek schools, colorado
BILL BLUROCK architect, corona del mar, california
JOHN TRITTIPO architect, bill blurock & associates, california

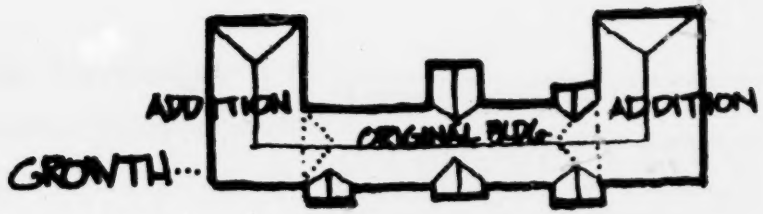
NORTH SCHOOL
HAL WAJROWSKI principal

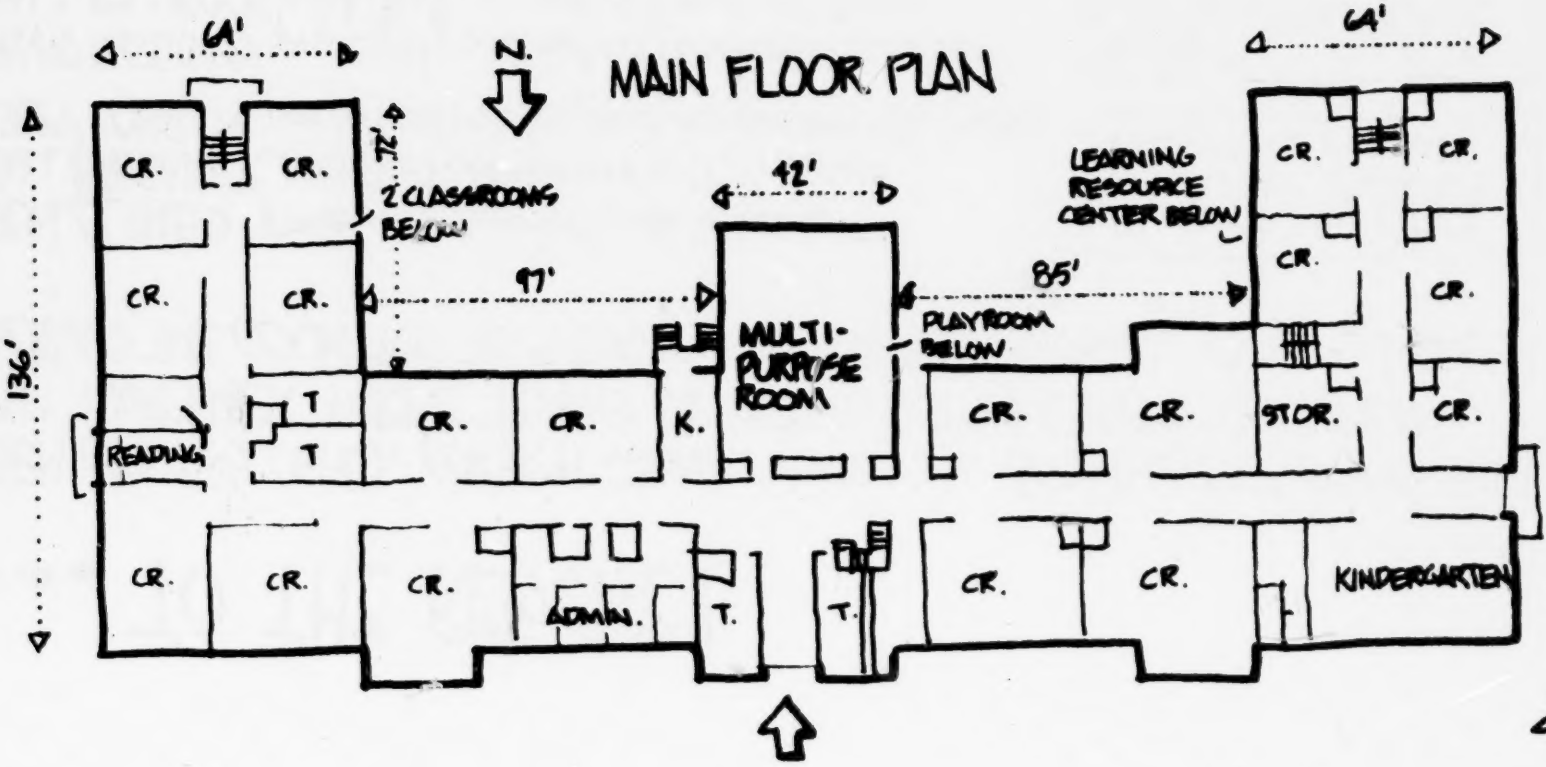
BEN GRAVES, director, educational facilities laboratories, chi.
BILL ENSIGN, architect, mcleod, ferarra & ensign, washington, d.c.
JOE TERRODI, architect, mcleod, ferarra & ensign, washington, d.c.

CENTRAL SCHOOL
JOHN HUSMAN principal

detailed instruction to teams:
"you have until 10 a.m. tomorrow to present your plan"!

EXISTING SOUTH SCHOOL 500 K-6ers





TEAM DISCUSSION...

DON GLINES: "give the kids self-responsibility... let them find their own teachers... a 'living-learning' system... no required subjects... old folks help teach... psychomotor curriculum is needed (P.E., home ec., industrial art)... total emphasis on I.G.E. (individually guided education)..."

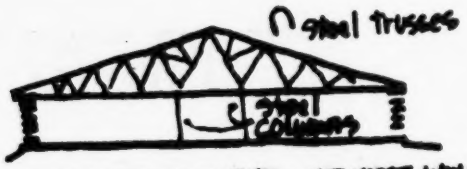
MICKI PICHEN, teacher: "we need opportunities to get away from desks... places for projects & a variety of activities... big boxes, other seating.... involve teachers, parents, pupils..."

carol collins, teacher: "need more space... open things up... but we still like the classroom..."

BILL BRUBAKER: "the existing building is in 4 parts:

The school could thus be divided 4 ways by grade-level or by discipline..."
"structurally, the school is flexible enough to allow most new ideas"...

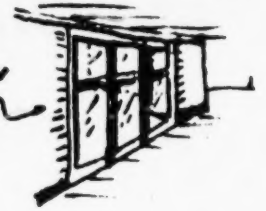
CROSS SECTION THRU oldest section



CROSS SECTION THRU NEWEST WING

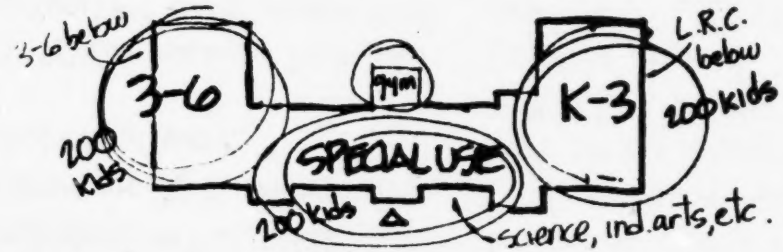
"there are other advantages here... the high ceilings (10'-3") permit interesting multi-level furnishings..."

"west wing has no bearing walls (interior) and can be completely opened up... even the center area can be opened up, tho, because of the high window openings to the corridor."

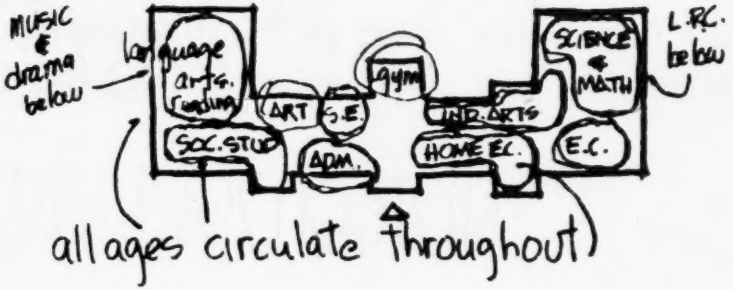


ALTERNATIVES FOR CHANGE...

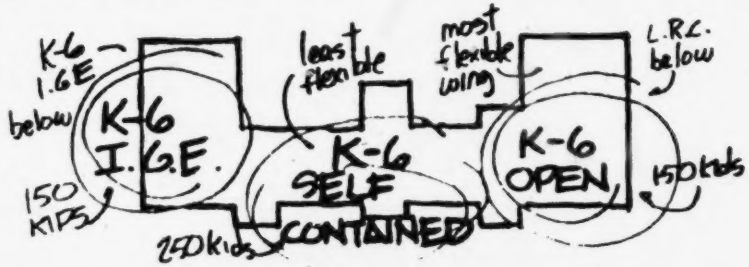
1 **MULTI-UNIT TEAMS:** K-3 & 3-6 AGE GROUPINGS... CENTRALIZED "SPECIAL USE" ACTIVITIES... INTERDISCIPLIN. LEARNING.



2 **MULTI-AGE CENTERS:** RANDOM AGE GROUPING... ALL ACTIVITIES CENTRALIZED... INTERRELATED LEARNING TEAMS.



3 **MULTI-ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL:** SCHOOL WITHIN A SCHOOL: 1) K-6 SELF CONTAINED; 2) K-6 I.G.E.; 3) K-6 OPEN PLAN.



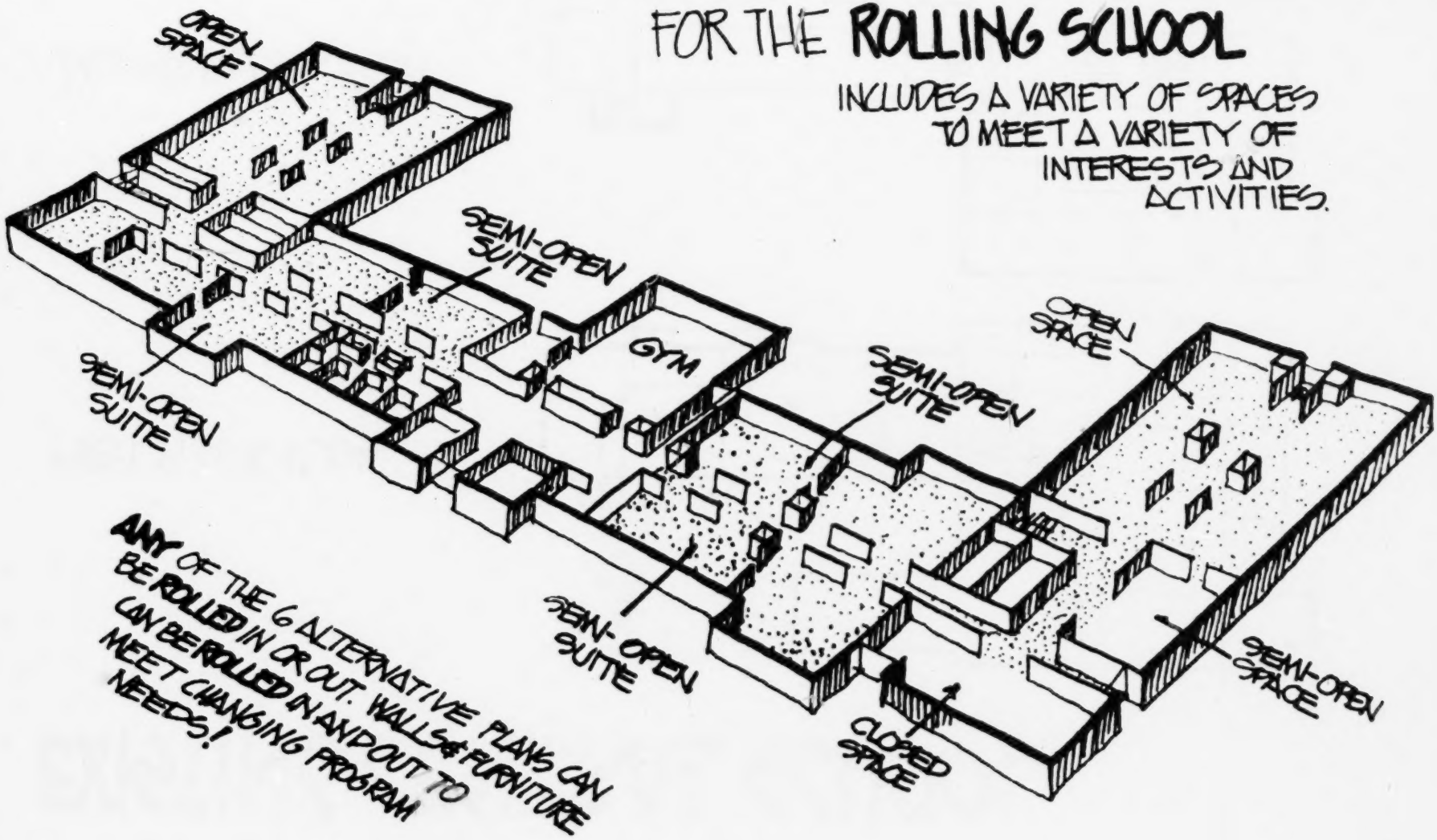
4 **DISTRICT ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL:** OPEN, MODIFIED & CLOSED AS IN 3, BUT AVAILABLE TO ALL KIDS.

5 **COMMUNITY SCHOOL:** a) WITHIN THE WALLS; b) OUTSIDE THE WALLS (e.g. science held elsewhere); c) LEARNING CENTERS.

6 **"FUTURE" LEARNING SYSTEM:** SPACE NEEDED TO PROVIDE THINGS AS YET UNTHOUGHT OF!

SOLUTION! A FLEXIBLE SHELL FOR THE ROLLING SCHOOL

INCLUDES A VARIETY OF SPACES TO MEET A VARIETY OF INTERESTS AND ACTIVITIES.

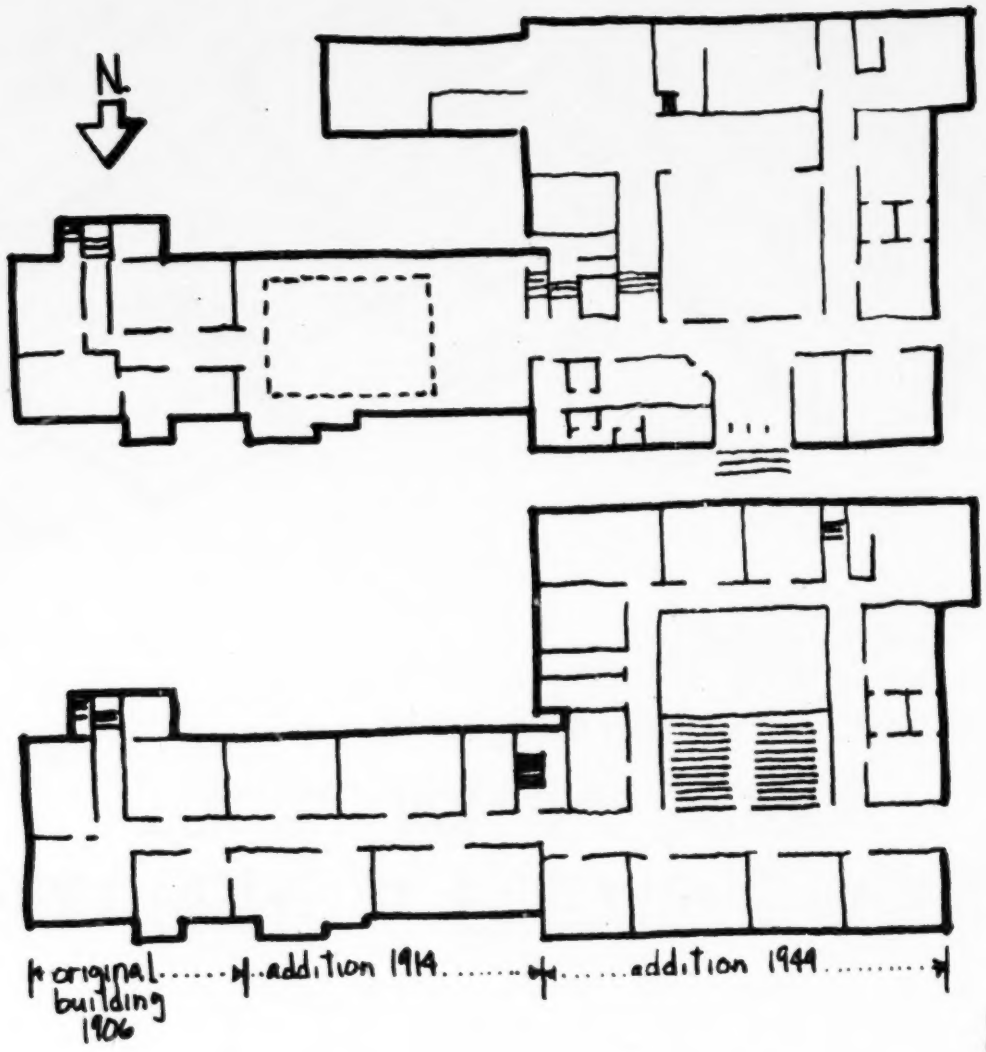


ANY OF THE 6 ALTERNATIVE PLANS CAN BE **ROLLED** IN OR OUT. WALLS & FURNITURE CAN BE **ROLLED** IN AND OUT TO MEET CHANGING PROGRAM NEEDS!

EXISTING CENTRAL SCHOOL

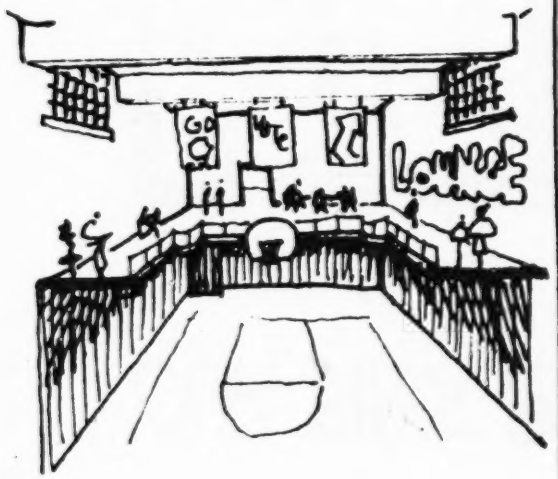
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SECOND FLOOR PLAN



TEAM DISCUSSION...

BEN GRAVES: "the new part of the building is not double loaded... we shouldn't touch the auditorium – the community uses it a lot and needs it... **BILL ENSIGN** – "maybe we can open up the balcony above".



"lets try a minimum of wall breakdowns & achieve maximum change with furnishings, pillows, interior decoration, etc."
"we need a priority list..."
"the school groups nicely into **three pods**..."
"lets start out with three teacher teams... scatter their headquarters throughout... one space exists on the second floor right now with potential to become a teacher's planning pod."
"furniture is bad..."
"don't upset the grade level organization at first... let's try a 1-3 pod first & 4-6 later."

LUCY BLAKE, teacher – "let's get one pod built right away – I want the first one!"

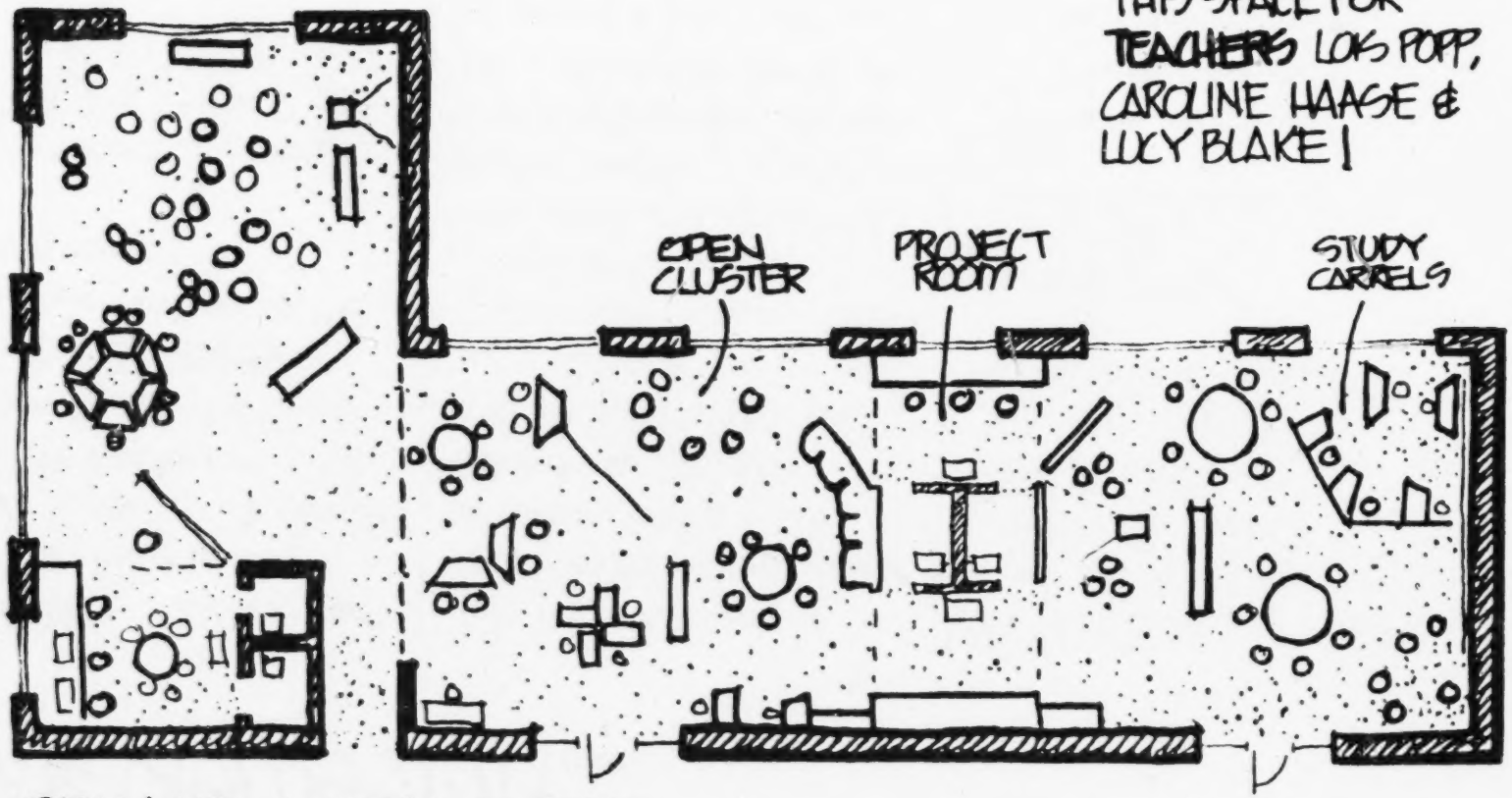
PRIORITY LIST:

- one pod first
- graphics & creative color
- other pods
- unified arts
- new buildings

"The three pod-types will be base originally on grade-levels, but will be able to change easily to fit other programs as those presented by south & north teams. we'll start with primary, intermediate & upper level pods."

OUR FIRST POD...

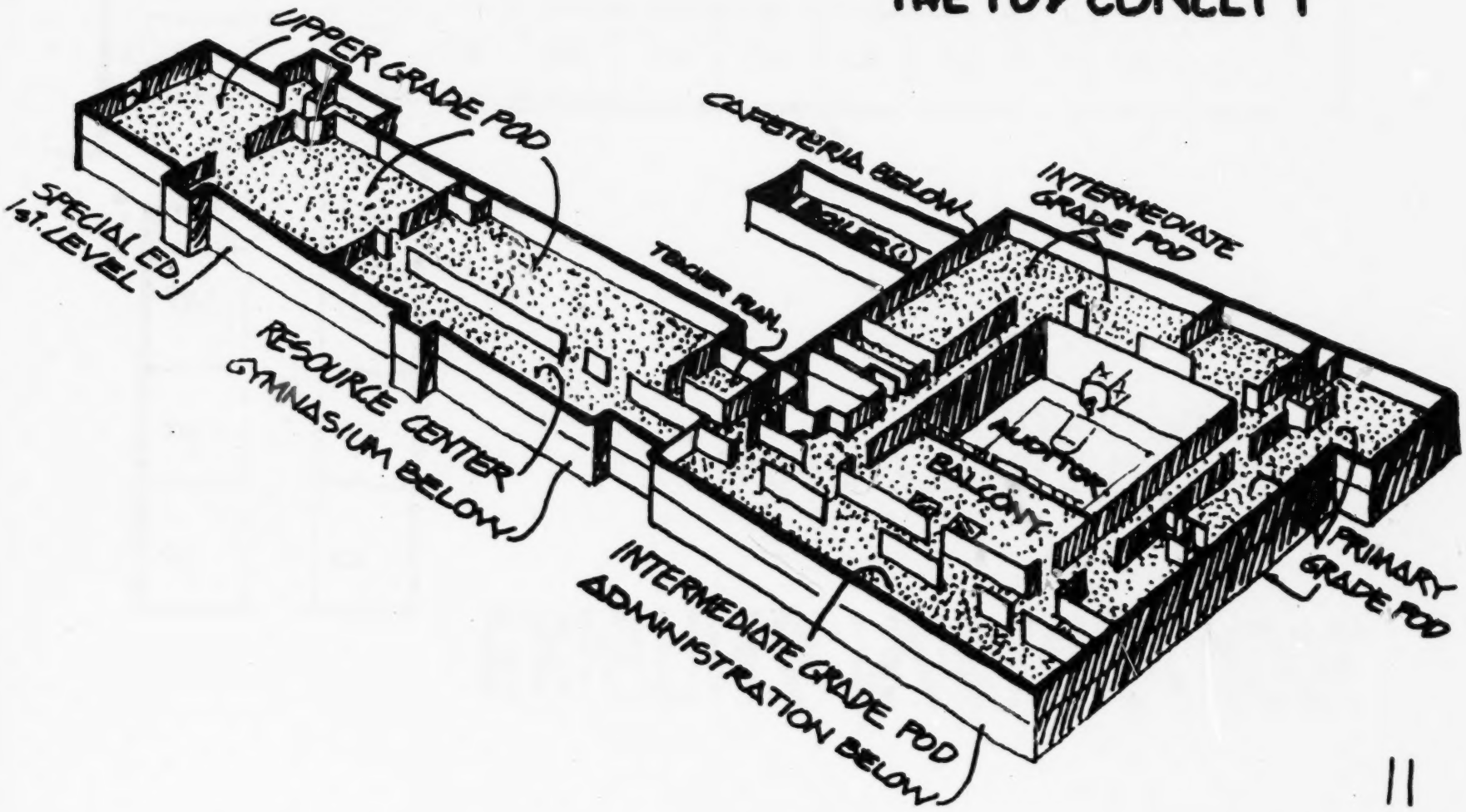
ARCHITECTS BILL ENSIGN & JOE TERRODI DESIGN THIS SPACE FOR TEACHERS LOIS POPP, CAROLINE HAAGSE & LUCY BLAKE!



PRIMARY GRADE POD

CENTRAL'S NEW FACILITY

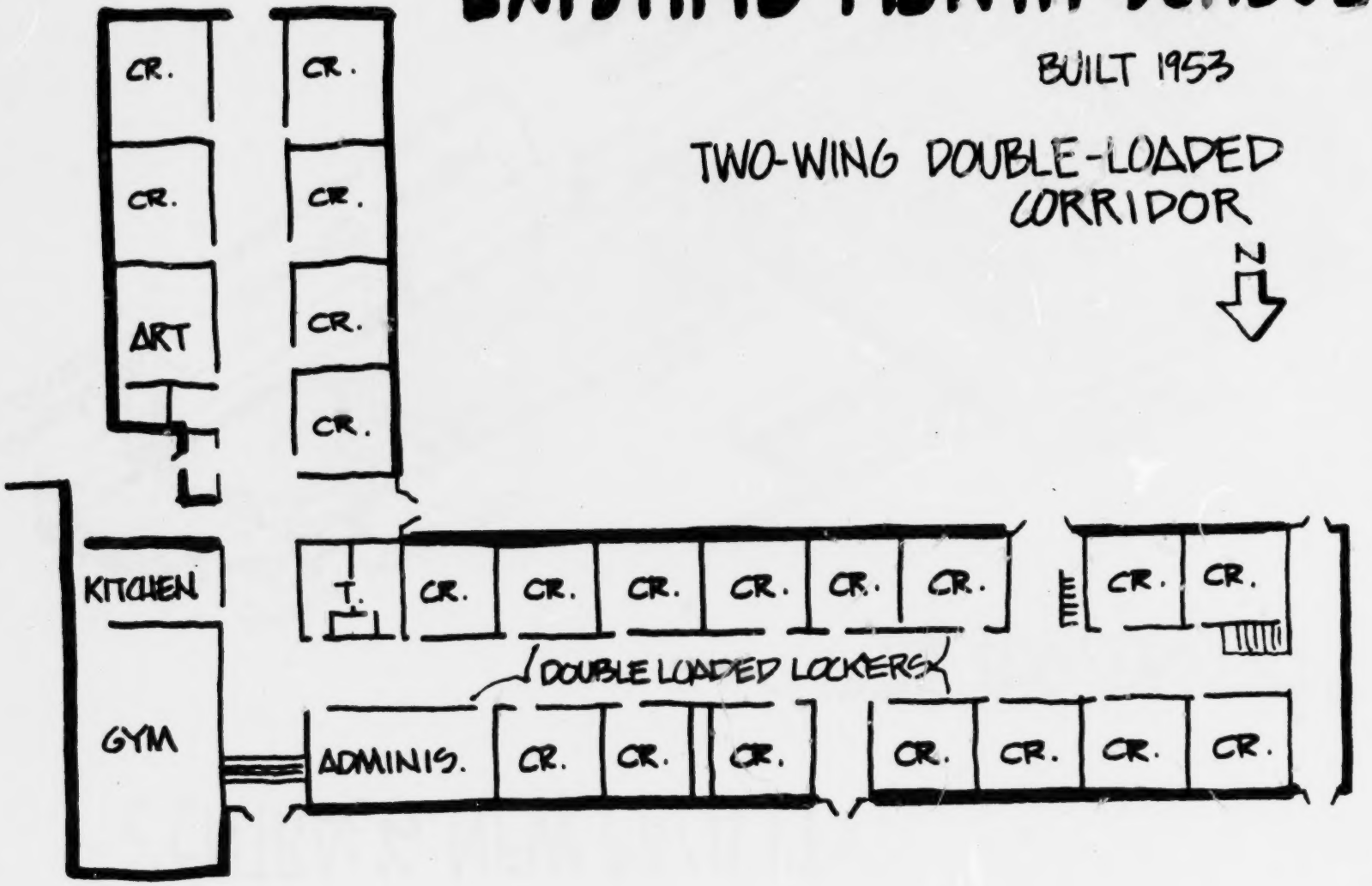
"THE POD CONCEPT"



EXISTING NORTH SCHOOL

BUILT 1953

TWO-WING DOUBLE-LOADED CORRIDOR



TEAM DISCUSSION

DAVE MATHIAS: "how do we reinforce self worth, creativity & imagination in a kid, and maintain/not destroy/ this reinforcement throughout the formative years of the pre-school → 8th grade sequence? ... does staff have autonomy? not really... how is motivation generated?"

BETTY CHRISTENSEN: "... experience back into self-contained with concepts..."

"staff is one-half self contained and one-half progressive..." "staff is amenable to trend and change..."

HAL WAJROWSKI: "total allocation of funds must be autonomous within each school."

INTERN CONCEPT:

"send out some interns for two weeks for program development... they'll return as group for moral support in rigid school."

"this concept is invalid without autonomy: 1) no more funds; 2) educationally sound; 3) community involvement."

HOW IS MOTIVATION GENERATED??

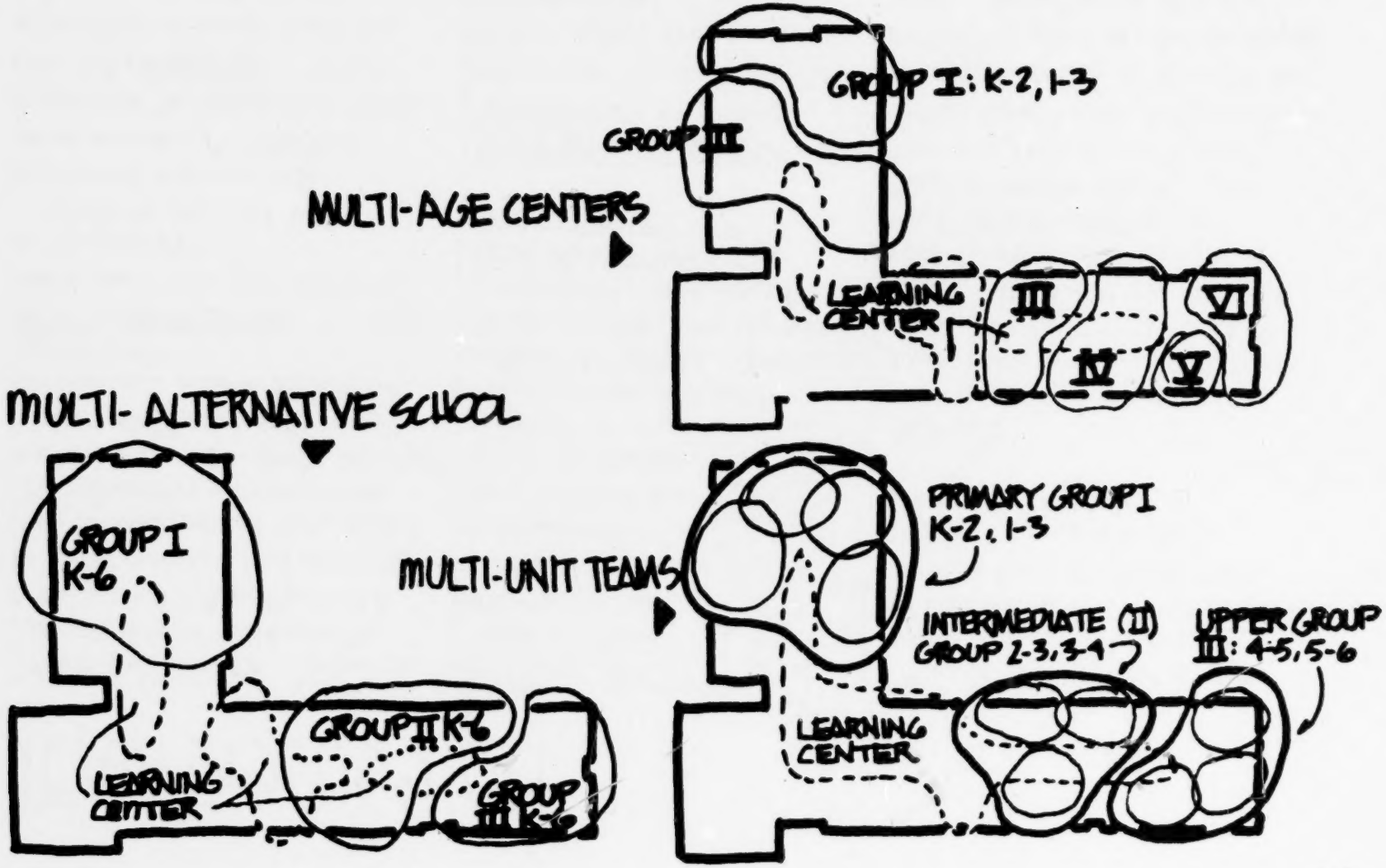
DIFFERENTIATED STAFFING is a pre-requisite to implementation... what are concerns for physical change?

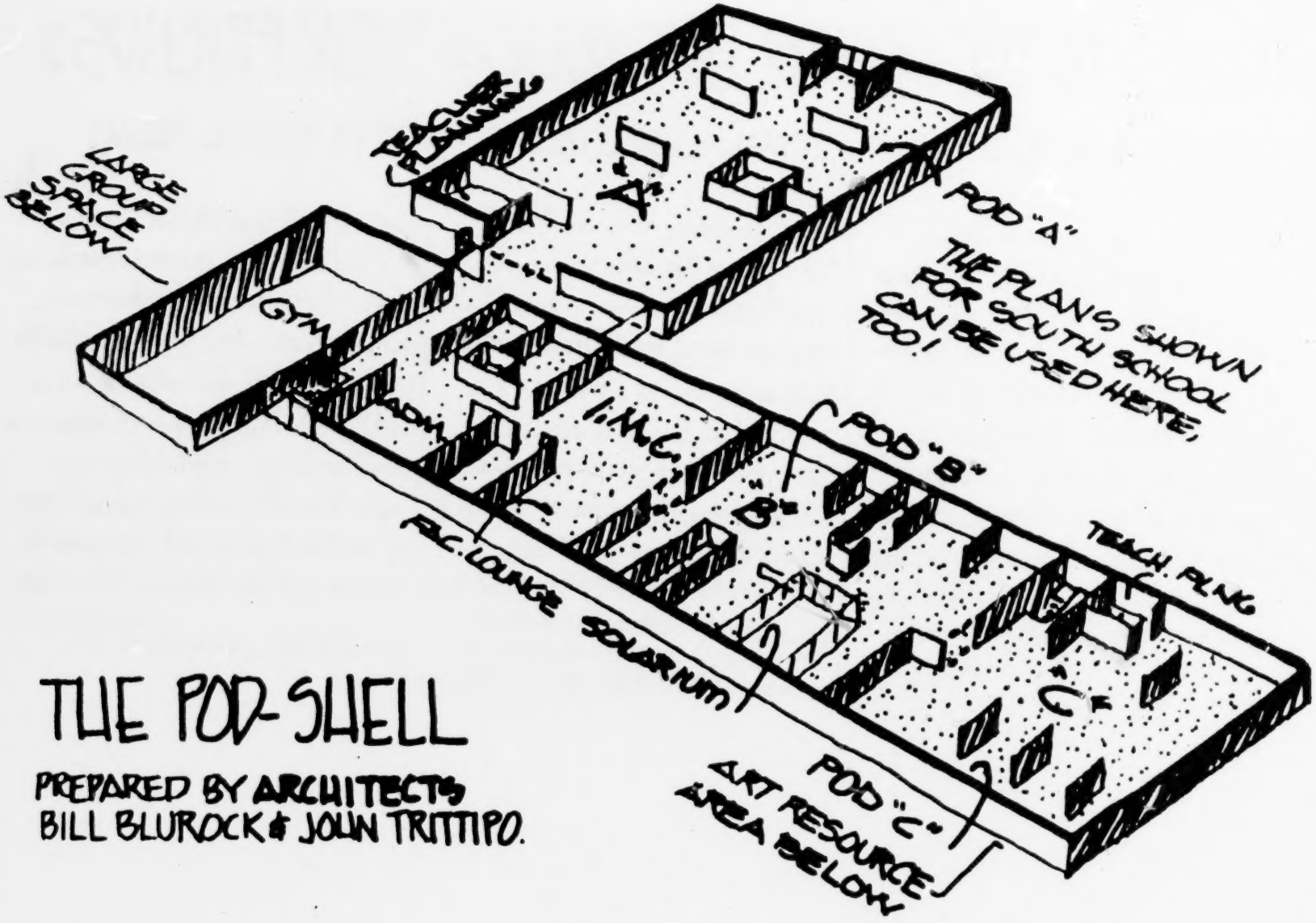
FLOW is important: "how do we get there more easily? how do we provide an environment of togetherness? concern for inevitable staff changes... main concern seems to be staff..."

GOALS:

a learning program for each pupil... de-institutionalize the school... make the whole facility easily accessible to all... use kid-made stuff inside—instead of teacher-made stuff... use the full potential of shell, which like south is flexible enough... many of the options in south's plan can be employed here... decentralize resources... get rid of lockers! strengthen COMMUNITY SCHOOL concept!

OPTIONS FOR CHANGE





THE POD-SHELL

PREPARED BY ARCHITECTS
BILL BLUROCK & JOHN TRITTIPO.

THANKS TO THE CRYSTAL LAKE FOLKS & THEIR FRIENDS:

SOUTH SCHOOL TEAM:

bob freund, c.l. architect
carol collins, teacher c.l. south
micki pichen, teacher - c.l. south
catherine smith, learning center
jim van bosch, principal - johnsburg
florence paskind, principal - chicago
"b" jerding, teacher - chicago
bob hanson, curriculum - bensenville
lauren hickman, editor - nation's schools
carb hamby, superintendent, c.l.
alyce sir, board of education, c.l.

CENTRAL SCHOOL TEAM:

fred lindsay, c.l. architect
lois popp, teacher c.l. central
lucy blake, teacher c.l. central
caroline haase, teacher c.l. central
jack wing, board of educ., c.l.
carl wehde, board of educ., c.l.
ron glovetski, principal - glinview
millard brewick, princip. - binsinv'le
howard thorson, sup't b.t.g. - c.l.
gene maxwell, principal - woodstock
howard schneider, assts. supt. c.l.
fox haney, principal - bensenville
howard elliott, elgin daily courier news

NORTH SCHOOL TEAM:

bob drayton, architect - c.l.
bill babington, curric. coord - c.l.
betty christensen, teacher - c.l.
donna abott, teacher - c.l. north
william smith, bd. of educ. - c.l.
william hillstrom, bd. of educ. - c.l.
william dlea, supt. glenview
bob kinnett, "nations schools" mag
g. millard, principal - bensenville
donna gregg, board of education, woodstock
bob blazier, assts. supt. c.l.